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PERIODICALS
DESK

The Observer

Robots make it better

April 28, 2005
Central Washington University
Volume 78, Number 21

TECHNO-IDENTITY CRISIS



Photo illustration by Observer photo/design staff

Shedding low-tech ways for
a high-tech future
at Central

See pages 2 and 3

The down side of upgrades

Central is getting a digital makeover and students are being forced to shed their low tech skin. While some students are more comfortable with their new cyber selves, others are struggling to adapt.

Adapting to SAFARI takes patience and troubleshooting

by Rebecca George
Staff reporter

Shea Eddy tried to register for classes spring quarter on SAFARI and was met with a head-scratcher: there was a hold on her account. The sophomore elementary education major thought her financial aid covered tuition expenses for spring quarter.

"Just a matter of slow processing," she was reassured by financial administrators. It turns out Eddy's loan was denied but SAFARI failed to notify her. She was forced to call around to family members in search of money to cover her spring quarter expenses.

"It was a really scary few months," Eddy said, "not knowing whether I'd be here or not and scrambling to find money to pay for school."

After just one year since being implemented on the campus network, the SAFARI system has certainly caused a lot of chatter among students and administration concerning its efficiency. With a new system like SAFARI there are often growing pains that students have to go through in order to become acquainted with such a big change.

Whether these pains are with registration for classes, financial aid, or even just everyday hassles that come with using the internet, some students on Central Washington University campus are having trouble adapting, even a year

later.

"I feel like we're guinea pigs with this whole system," said Nathan Hart, sophomore undeclared. "No one has sat down and taught us how to use this, we're just feeling our way through it and I think this is why there are so many problems."

For students like Hart, using the SAFARI network has been a headache, but it may be easier with each quarter.

"Since this is the first year that we've had SAFARI in place, we are still tuning the system for optimal usage," said Sandra Oftedahl, project manager for SAFARI implementation in an e-mail.

"In any new system of this size and complexity, there will be things we didn't anticipate or were unaware of."

Other students are having difficulty being patient, especially when it comes to registration for classes and the inability to use the old, printed version of the course catalog. One of the biggest complaints is the difficulty in accessing the course catalog and viewing what classes are available.

"Where did the course catalog go?" asked Tony Kerrick, senior business

see SAFARI, page 4 ▶

Tech fees cover basics, but printing costs may pinch student pennies

by Heather Lewis
Staff reporter

When students are unable to own a computer of their own, they have to rely on the computer services supplied in Central Washington University's labs.

Senior fashion merchandising major Amy Ingram is one such student. Ingram must leave her house to find an open lab to type, print or research.

"Even though there are tons of labs on campus, I am always going to go to the labs in Shaw-Smyser," Ingram said. "They have the nicest computers and their hours are fairly dependable."

In order for college campuses to give these computer benefits to their students, it is necessary to impose a fee collected from students at the beginning of each quarter to pay for supplies. The Washington State Legislature authorized the technology fee in March of 1996, and Central implemented the fee spring quarter of that year. The fee was called the Second Substitute House Bill 2293. Central has the lowest tech fee in the state and it has not risen in almost 10 years.

Central has 512 computers: 150 Mac and 362 IBM. Every quarter, the Student Technology Fee Committee, which is made up of six students, four staff/administrators and one committee leader, get together to determine where to spend the money collected from the technology fee.

"When deciding how to spend the student's money we look at a lot of factors: how many students the funding will benefit, if that department or lab has any other means of funding and what that department or lab plans to do with the money granted," said Derrick Peters, student representative on the committee.

The technology fee committee receives approximately 25 requests from different departments and labs to receive money quarterly. Technology committee head Dave Storla explained that requests vary from new computers and more supplies to updated TV monitoring systems.

Another portion of the technology fee goes towards paying for the Student Assistants (SAs) in the labs who answer questions for the students.

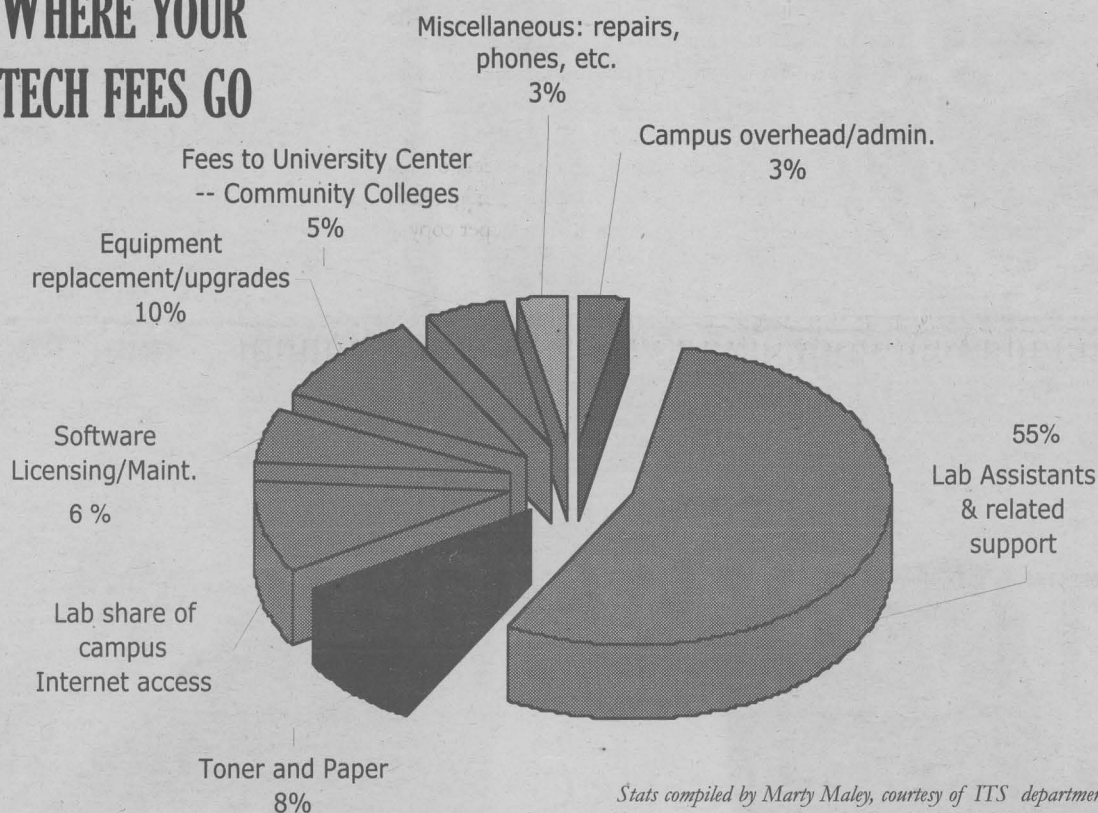
"Through the period of July 2004 through March 2005, approximately 56 percent of the expense has been for wages and benefits for the lab assistants. The cost figure for the period is \$255,057," Storla said.

This quarter the technology fee paid for \$50,800 worth of maintenance and new supplies on Central's campus. Although paper is free for students now, with the rising costs of printing, the Technology Fee Committee is debating whether or not to install a four-cent charge per page to print.

"Even though I know printing in the labs is abused sometimes, if every student pays their \$35 a quarter printing should remain free," said Genevieve Weber, senior business administration major.

If students have any questions regarding the technology fee, they can contact one of the committee members at their Web site: www.cwu.edu/president/ucl/uctechfee.htm.

WHERE YOUR TECH FEES GO



SAFARI offers more to students open to change

by Allison Maddox and
Shannon McKiernan
Staff reporters

Last fall, Central replaced the old REGI and WIN systems with the new SAFARI program. Going from phone lines to faster LAN lines has not been an error-free transformation.

"SAFARI and REGI are night and day systems. SAFARI is a web-based registration system. REGI was a phone registration system," said Tracy Terrell, registrar services data analyst. "The reporting capabilities in SAFARI are endless compared to REGI."

SAFARI stands for Student Financials, Admissions, Financial Aid, Academic Progress and Records Information. The SAFARI program contains all the components for understanding a Central student's scholastic records, and is capable of doing more than REGI.

"We are actually looking ahead to plan an upgrade already when the next version is released, so I think that is a good sign," Terrell said.

Schools and colleges across the nation have incorporated the SAFARI program into registration services, but Central is the first school in Washington state to use SAFARI at this time. Other school districts that have included SAFARI into their systems include Cal State in California, Salina public schools in Kansas, the Houston Independent School District in Texas and Mercer County special services school in New Jersey.

Central's information technology help desk assistant, said the system is here to stay regardless whether a student's experience with SAFARI was a good or a bad one.

Ken Young, information technology assistant, said the most common complaint he hears from students is that they are being blocked from their

Central accounts because they failed to change their password. This may restrict students from registering for classes and checking their financial status.

"The whole system is confusing and hard to figure out," said Sarah Robey, freshman English major. "I go to my friends or the lab assistants for help. I didn't know there was a help desk."

While the system may have been confusing at first, most of the technical glitches Young dealt with came from student's personal computer setups, not SAFARI. For example, students are encouraged to provide an anti-virus system for their own computer.

Young advises students to be aware of computer hackers and other interferences with viruses in order to eliminate technical difficulties with SAFARI.

Uriel Hernandez, functional application specialist for the SAFARI help desk, advises students to read the information that was sent out to them about

the system and maintain a secure pin number.

"We provide as much and detailed information as possible," Hernandez said. "With any new system, you end up seeing a change which is disruptive to the old one."

According to Hernandez, most of the problems that he deals with come from upper classmen who were accustomed to the old system.

"I really liked REGI, especially for registration, but SAFARI has more stuff in it," said Heather Finkas, junior elementary education and special education major. "It was so confusing at first, but I am starting to get used to it."

Although there have been some problems, Carmen Rahm, information technology director, said that the new system allows more accurate information and has technical improvement.

"Faculty can now submit grades from anywhere in the country," Rahm said.

Focus on future technology at Central

by Marty Maley
Staff reporter

On campuses around the nation, students and faculty are tuning in with new wireless access on laptop computers, hand-held devices and PDAs. What is next? The Information Technology Services Department is looking into the possible future of technology at Central Washington University.

Lab makeovers?

Don't get too set on using that favorite, out-of-the-way computer lab right next to your residence hall. Carmen Rahm and the ITS Department are working on reducing the number of computer labs down to a few larger labs. The Brooks Library computer lab, with its long open hours, is one lab that is a prime candidate for expansion. The new larger labs will have extended hours and a large variety of software options.

Alma Velazques, junior information technology major, has some concerns with the idea.

"Most people have classes in one building," Velazques said. "It's easier to just go upstairs where the lab is and just use it there between classes instead of walking to a bigger more centralized lab."

On the other hand, Velazques thought the idea of having more programs that students would normally use in one central location would be an

"When I was in the dorms I didn't even use my dorm phone. I just used my cell phone."

—Josh Jones
Senior, information technology

improvement.

Virtual labs?

Central is also considering "virtual labs." Virtual labs would allow students to make almost any place into their personal lab by bringing their own portable device to campus or checking out a laptop. Tech savvy students could access the network all over campus and would be able to print at printing kiosks that would be located at several key areas on campus. This would allow students to work away from the traditional lab, without losing resources.

This idea sounded good to Brooke Garrett, junior psychology major.

"That would be a lot easier," Garrett said. "You're like 'It's printing there and I can get it right now,' instead of either saving it or having to do it somewhere else. Now you have to take it to wherever you got the laptop or save it on a disk."

How about cell phones?

Central is considering replacing traditional telephones in the residence halls with cell phones. For a small

monthly fee, students would have unlimited local minutes to use. The new phones would be equipped with global positioning systems allowing 911 calls to be tracked. For long distance calls, packages from a service provider would be available.

"I think it would be a good idea," said Josh Jones, senior information technology major. "When I was in the dorms, I didn't even use my dorm phone. I just used my cell phone."

But Jones is concerned that students losing the cell phones would be a big problem for Central.

Paying for printing?

In the future, students may have to pay for excessive printing in open labs. Rahm said some students are printing unnecessary amounts in campus labs. Students printing more than a set number of pages per quarter may have to pay by the page. Rahm is suggesting that printing pages in excess of 100 per quarter, as an example, might result in having to pay five cents per copy in the future.

news briefs

Real life CSI

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, Dr. Stanley Rhine presents "Forensic Anthropology: Listening to the Bones." Rhine has over two decades experience as a forensic anthropologist.

Counties use absenteees

The state legislature passed Substitute House Bill 1754, which allows counties to conduct all elections by mail. The bill was backed by Secretary of State Sam Reed.

New education deputy

Former assistant secretary for elementary and secondary education Raymond Simon was nominated as the deputy secretary of education by President Bush last week. He will be working under secretary of education Rod Paige.

Hate causes hold-out

At Trinity College, in Illinois, dozens of minority students had to be secluded off-campus after three students received racially motivated hate mail. The students returned the following weekend and police efforts were increased.

Harvard faces criticism

Nigerian physicians have criticized Harvard University for delaying the start of a program to treat

AIDS patients. Critics claim the delay has caused unnecessary deaths.

Britain academic union boycotts Israel

The largest academic union in Britain voted to boycott two Israeli Universities, claiming the institutions undermined Palestinian rights and academic freedom. The union's votes were immediately condemned by British university officials who claimed there was an anti-Israel political bias behind the action taken.

Indiana State to require laptops for students

Despite objections from some professors, Indiana State University's Faculty Senate has signed off on a plan that will require incoming freshman to buy laptops starting in 2007. The University's Board of Trustees could vote on this proposal as early as this upcoming summer.

People want filibuster

An ABC News poll showed that people oppose the GOP's efforts to eliminate the filibuster 2 to 1. The GOP plans to invoke what has become known as the "nuclear option" a plan, eliminating the filibuster and would make legislative decisions strictly by majority vote.

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Timothy Park



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Students attacked in possible hate crime

by Allison White
Online editor

Three Central students, Kevin Malella, Jesse Simon and Casey Wagner, were assaulted early Saturday morning by two males in what they describe as a hate crime. In statements made by the victims, the dispute was unprovoked and, according to a written statement given to the police by Simon, came after one of the alleged assailants yelled "You f—ing faggots!"

The assailants were briefly detained by the Ellensburg Police, cited and released later that morning.

Malella, senior photography major, received injuries to his face after being punched in the jaw when he asked the men why they called him a faggot.

Simon, junior art major, went to Malella's aid and received cuts on both eyebrows, left eyelid, nose and lip as well as bruises on his jaw, back, torso, hips, elbow and foot as he defended himself from both alleged males, who turned on him as he tried to pull them off Malella. Simon fell to the ground

and the men continued to strike him.

Simon stated that he "must have blacked out momentarily, for when I got to my feet there was only one individual onlooker standing next to me."

Wagner, senior photography major, wrote in his police statement, "two men were threatening Malella and calling him derogatory names and appeared to be intoxicated. They were swaying and were shouting. I approached Kevin and said to the two men 'We are not going to do this,' and asked Kevin that we go upstairs. I put my arm on Kevin and motioned to the stairs. Immediately upon us walking away one of the men attacked me in the face with his fist."

Wagner received a split lip and was later treated with stitches at the Kittitas Valley Community Hospital.

In a written statement given by Malella he wrote, "The dictionary defines a hate crime as 'any of various crimes... when motivated by hostility to the victim as a member of a group (as one based on color, creed, gender, or sexual orientation).' The men who defined their own intent and actions to

be based on presumed sexual orientation, inadvertently defined their actions to fall under the prosecutable offense of a hate crime and should not be tolerated."

Leslie Webb, Diversity Education Center director, explained that a situation such as this is a bias-incited incident that elevated to a hate crime because the alleged assailants assaulted the three students.

Ironically, at the same time on campus, there was a conference dealing with gay bashing. However none of the victims or accused participated.

Webb and Kay Davis, Rodeo Club adviser, wrote in a statement, "We believe and hope this was an isolated incident and not in conjunction with the LGBT Leadership Conference or College Rodeo."

However, Webb said, "It happens every day, in every small town, in every Laramie, Wyoming and every Ellensburg, Washington. Does this mean that I'm trying to diminish the importance of this incident? Absolutely not."

Memorial concert set for Jacobus

by Rachel Thomson
Asst. News editor

The Central Music Department has scheduled a memorial concert to honor the life of the late Charles "Chaz" Jacobus at 2 p.m. today in the Music Education Building.

The 23-year-old senior music education major was found dead in his apartment last week.

"I was quite fond of him," said Jefferey Snedeker, associate chair and professor of music history, who taught Jacobus in classes. "He had a very quiet but an intense passion about him."

Snedeker said Jacobus was dedicated. "He was like a pit bull," the professor said. "He would just stick to it until he accomplished what he needed to."

Snedeker is one of the music professors who helped organize the memorial concert.

Central's trumpet choir, brass

choir, and wind ensembles are scheduled to perform.

Ben Gessel, a student and close friend of Jacobus will perform a piece he wrote after Jacobus' death entitled "Beyond Words."

Fred McIlroy, another student and friend, will perform Jacobus' favorite song, "Imagine," by John Lennon.

In between the music portions of the concert, people who were close to Jacobus will have an opportunity to speak at an open mike session.

A reception will follow afterward. A memory book is located in the office of the first floor of the Music Education building for those who wish to sign it. The book will be given to Jacobus' family.

His death was ruled a suicide, according to Central's director of public safety and police services, Steve Rittereiser.

SAFARI: Confusion stifles student's personal accounts during registration

◀ continued from 2

major. "I miss the good ole' days when we could just call REGI (the old registration system) and hold a tangible course catalog."

While accessing a list of every class offered for the quarter is possible via SAFARI, the process requires many steps, and if you want a tangible course list, it requires a lot of ink and paper, too.

"I wasn't a big fan of the system at

first," said Scott Carlton, director of academic advising. "The old network didn't require as many steps as the SAFARI Web-based system."

Carlton deals with students and their registration issues on a daily basis and finds that one of the biggest complaints is not having a tangible catalog.

"It's a trade-off," Carlton said. "While the old system had a better layout of the CAPS report, the SAFARI system provides me with more information for students."

Carlton, who has been working with Central students since 1986, has seen the registration process from many angles.

"Central has come a long way since '86," Carlton said. "Whenever you bring in a new package, there are going to be growing pains."

SAFARI stretches beyond just class registration. It is becoming an all-encompassing network designed to handle financial aid, GroupWise e-mail, Blackboard and communication between administrators and students.

One of the issues affecting Central students has been the use of SAFARI for distributing refund checks. This spring, almost 900 students, according to Oftedahl, opted to have their refunds

deposited directly into their checking accounts, rather than wait in the infamous lines in Barge Hall on refund check day.

"I can remember waiting for hours, it seemed like, just to get my refund check," said Kara Martin, junior undeclared. "But this past quarter, all I had to do was drive to the bank and it was sitting in my account, waiting for me to spend on shots at the Tav."

With the SAFARI network, students are able to check on updated financial aid summary, account balance and view financial holds if applicable.

But for some students, refund check day was a different story. Saralynn Jez, junior special education major, waited approximately three and a half weeks before she was able to cash her check.

After waiting in line for an hour, cashiers told Jez that she actually owed \$1,000, when she was actually supposed to be receiving a \$300 check.

"Financial aid had records of me being double-charged for a meal plan where my SAFARI account did not," Jez said.

After explaining the situation to the cashiers, Jez was told to return in a week when she would receive her check.

"I came back a week later and they

tried to hand me a check for \$1,000," Jez said.

But financial aid had yet to deduct other fees. Another week passed and she came back to finally pick up a check for \$300, after waiting almost another hour for the office to find it.

"The entire time, the cashiers explained that the discrepancy with my finances were because of the SAFARI network," Jez said. "Often times, the financial aid system was incongruent with SAFARI and cashiers told me they were unable to access my SAFARI account because the system had been down."

Other issues this past spring concerned the posting of when refund checks would be distributed. The official date was misposted this year, leaving students disappointed on such an exciting day.

"There were some changes with how financial aid disbursements were applied to accounts if cash payments had already been made, which caused some confusion at first," Oftedahl said.

More than a quarter of Central students opted to have refund checks directly deposited. The process for administrators was grueling, but successful for most refund check receivers. Original plans to begin direct deposit were for winter quarter; however a few technical difficulties led to the delay in initiating the program.

"We had to do quite a bit of setup and testing for this new function," Oftedahl said. "And although we intended it to be ready at the beginning of winter quarter, we ran into a separate problem that forced us to delay the start of direct deposit."

"It's new technology but we're getting better at it," Oftedahl said. "We know there will be some adjustments and changes. We appreciate students' patience during this first year of full usage of SAFARI."

Despite the issues with the new network, Oftedahl has clearly kept her sense of humor. Her e-mail ended with a quote from pundit Mitch Radcliffe: "A computer lets you make more mistakes faster than any other invention in human history, with the possible exception of handguns and tequila."

Pregnant?

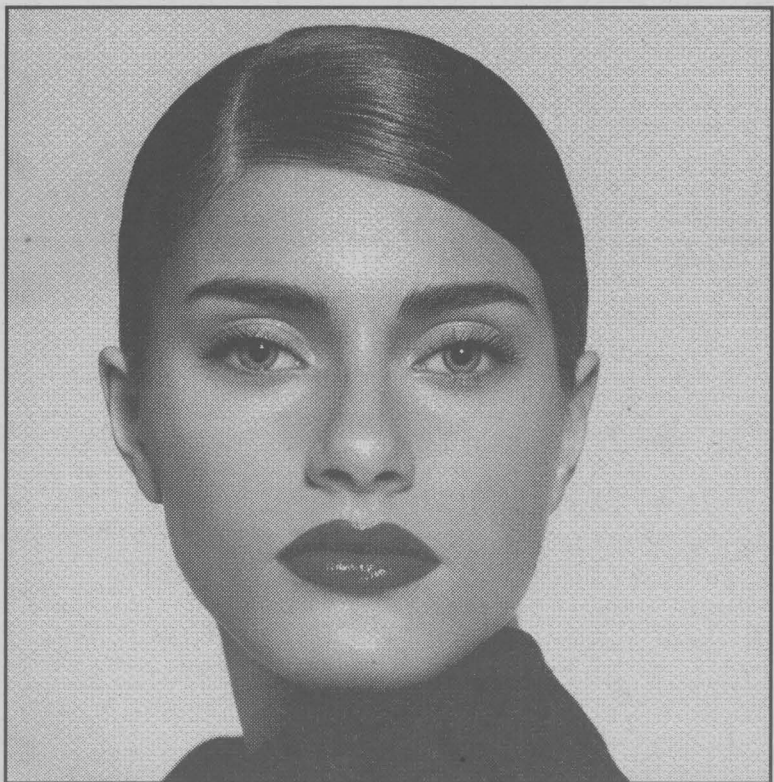
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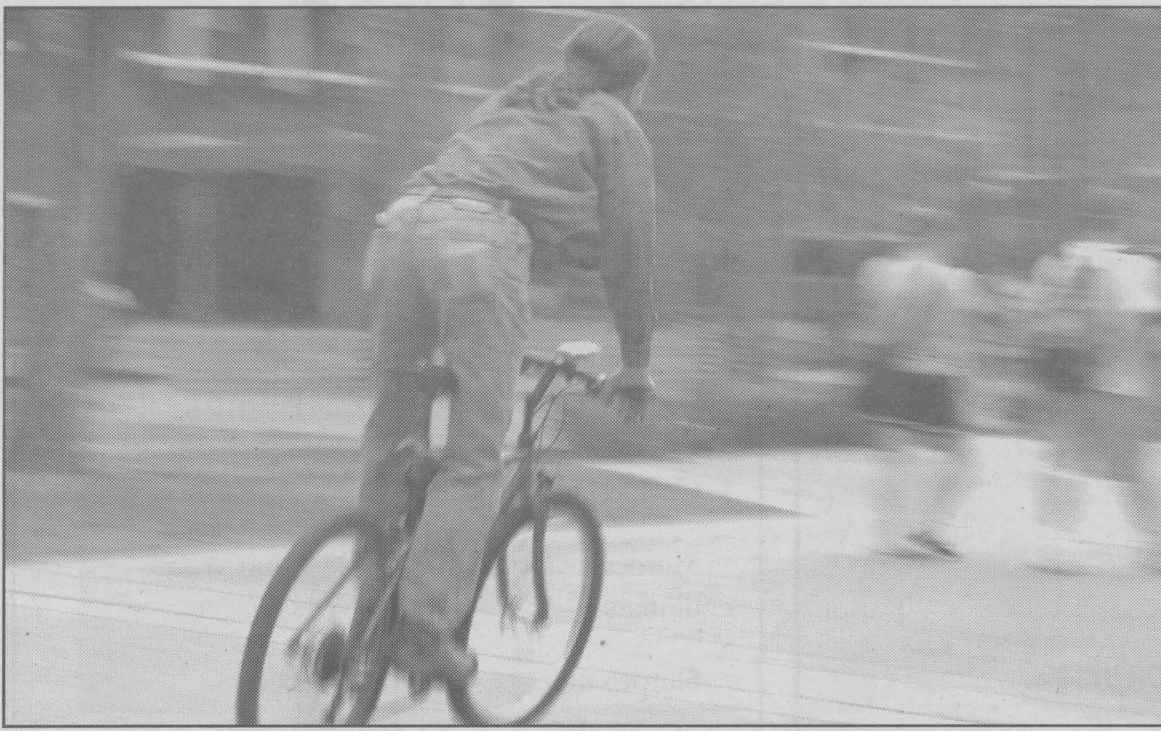
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Chris Gianunzio/Observer

Tom Semple, graduate painting major rides helmetless down Walnut Mall in front of Bouillon Hall. If passed, the helmet law would require students riding bikes, skateboard or scooters on campus or city streets to wear a helmet.

City to consider helmet law

by Taisbi Kanamaru
Staff reporter

Anyone who rides a scooter, bicycle, skateboard or roller skates in Ellensburg will have to wear a helmet, if a new ordinance is approved.

The new ordinance will apply to those who ride vehicles on city property such as the city skate park or streets. Anyone failing to wear helmets will be fined \$25.

Next Monday, the Ellensburg City Council is planning to have its second public meeting about helmet regulation. On May 16, another meeting will decide if the ordinance will be adopted or not.

Obie O'Brien, City Council member, started planning the ordinance because he was concerned kids were wearing helmets only when learning to ride.

"Their parents put helmets or knee

pads on them, but very shortly they are no longer wearing pads or helmets," O'Brien said.

As O'Brien researched, he found out that young adult men had the highest accident rate. The fact surprised him and he proposed the ordinance apply to all ages.

O'Brien said 79 people went to the emergency room last year because of bicycle-related accidents.

"That doesn't even count the ones who got hurt and didn't go to the hospital," O'Brien said.

O'Brien hopes to make the law take effect by June.

"I don't like the idea," said Miles VanRijn, senior political science major. He rides a bicycle to school without a helmet everyday. "That would just be inconvenient."

O'Brien said some college students spoke against the new ordinance like

VanRijn at the City Council's first meeting about the law two weeks ago.

"The goal (of the new ordinance) is not to slap people," O'Brien said. "The judge will have the authority to be able to waive any of the \$25 fine if you can prove you bought a helmet."

Yukiho Yamamoto, sophomore information technology and Chinese teaching major, said there is a need for the law.

"I often see kids on skateboards or bicycles on the streets, and they just seem careless," Yamamoto said.

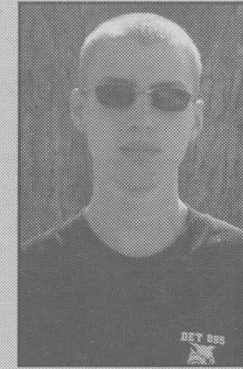
O'Brien admits that some people oppose the law, but hopes the change will go smoothly.

"I want people, particularly the students on campus, to know that the point of this whole discussion is their safety," O'Brien said. "What's the best for the people in Ellensburg?"

helmet laws?

"I think it's a good idea for city and country riding but campus riding no."

Bridgette Valdez
junior environmental
geology major

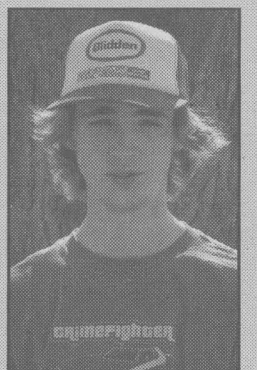


"Helmets are a good idea but it's not the city's responsibility to make us wear them."

James Patterson
freshman geology major

"It's a good idea, but people won't listen to it."

Steven Seibert
junior graphic design major

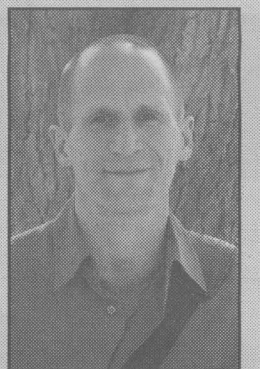


"It's just another way for the city to collect fines. Are they that greedy?"

Justin Mumm
senior photography major

"I'm an adult I can decide if I want to wear a helmet."

Tim England
math professor



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Pat Lewis

At college we get a unique experience. We, as students, get to find out who we are and who we want to be. Speaking for myself, newspaper reporting is where I want to go. With that comes responsibility, by being fair and ethical in my reporting for example. But I don't decide what news is.

I had a chance to attend a national journalism conference, in San Francisco, at the end of February. One of the speakers, Susan Goldberg, managing editor for the San Jose Mercury News, really hit it home for me. She talked about how journalism as a trade will die if reporters keep thinking they know what the news is. I don't want to go the way of the dinosaur because I'm overlooking what my readers think. I don't want to be like many of the conference goers who seemed to agree with the next day's speaker who said directly the opposite. Your job as the reader is to decide the news. *The Observer's* circulation is roughly 6,000 printed copies. That's at least

6,000 readers who should essentially tell us what should be printed. Yet I hear almost nothing from the masses.

Last week we had to cut a couple of pages from *The Observer* due to an ad for the SUB/REC project. That meant the second page of opinion was gone, but it didn't affect the paper at all. You know why? No one wrote in.

In three weeks of us printing this quarter, no one has had any response

to the paper. There was no love or hate for the redesign, response to the comic, the stories we led the paper with, the photos chosen for the front, the columns, or even our colorful sports reporting. With 16 pages of stories and photos, none have garnered any response. Some of the articles we decide to run are to incite controversy. I love getting feedback about the paper; I don't want to think that everyone who reads it loves it. At the same time I don't want to think that everyone who reads it, hates it. I don't know either way if no one responds.

The same goes for the actual stories we print. Sometimes I'm in

the right place at the right time and I get a scoop on something that could go in the paper (people calling about club accomplishments for example). Even with the staff that we have, small by college standards, we can't find out everything that is happening in either campus or Ellensburg. We live or die by our readers for so many reasons. You help us find stories to report on, the "average joe" helps us break a story.

Finally, guest columns. I have no problem working with students or faculty to get a guest column printed. It could be a reaction to local or professional sports, politics.

SOURCE is just around the corner, and it would be great to get a faculty or presenter perspective. Again it all comes down to communication. I have a year or two left on the paper, and I want to continue shaking things up. The photo front is a good start, and I want to move more toward an overall magazine style. College is an environment that's positive to change. I want *The Observer* to be a newspaper people love to pick up on Thursdays. I can't do it alone, and every reader who pitches in only makes the paper better for everyone else.

Pat Lewis is the Managing editor and can be reached at LewisP@cwu.edu

OBSERVANCE

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Opinion

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- * Caramel Frappucinos
- * Murder mystery dinners
- * Slurpee time
- * New flavors of Dasani water
- * Not having to wear coats out at night
- * A free concert by Pedro the Lion
- * Warm enough to wear flip-flops
- * Ultimate frisbee

Thumbs Down

- * Midterms
- * Sand in your swimsuit
- * Bees
- * Passing people with bad B.O. on campus
- * Working inside when it's nice out
- * Female body builders
- * Only halfway through the quarter
- * All-nighters

-contributed by Observer Staff

the observer staff

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DEADLINES

Listed below are the deadlines for the Observer. The Observer office, located in Bouillon 222, is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Submissions can be brought to the office, e-mailed to Observer@cwu.edu, mailed to Observer at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.

NEWS

- Friday, 5 p.m. - Entertainment, meetings, calendar events.
- Monday, 3 p.m. - Weekend sports information.
- Monday, 5 p.m. - Letters to the editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLICY

The Observer welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday before the week of publication. Letters must be typewritten and less than 300 words.

All letters must include your name and phone number for verification. Only one letter a month will be accepted from an individual.

The Observer reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar, libel and matters of taste. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Send letters by mail or e-mail to: The Observer, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7435; observer@cwu.edu or by fax to (509) 963-1027.

ADVERTISING

- Thursday, 5 p.m. - Display ads.
 - Monday, 5 p.m. - Classified ads.
- To contact an advertising representative, call the Observer business office at (509) 963-1026 or fax information to (509) 963-1027.

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Parents hiding behind excuses

Excuses. I hate them. They have no place in business or school or work. They definitely have no place in parenting. What does this have to do with a single, childless college student like me? More than you'd think. Just because I don't have kids doesn't mean that I'm not adversely affected by other people's bad parenting.

It never fails: I'm out to dinner with a friend and some obnoxious eight year old five tables over is making enough noise to disrupt MY dinner conversation while their parent just sits there, ignoring the fact that their child is misbehaving. I can't count the number of times that I've been in a grocery store and seen children screaming and running up and down the aisles, with not a parent in sight.

I've even had the misfortune to witness a child going up and down the frozen food section, leaning over and spitting on all of the thermometers. His mother saw him and took matters into her own hands: "Now Tommy (name

has been changed because remembering it was the LAST thing on my mind), it's not nice to do that..."

Not nice? I would say that allowing your child to grow up to be a monster is more like "rude and inconsiderate." In truth, what you are failing to teach him now will affect ME later. And what about the child? How fair is it to him?

We've all heard it said: kids today are more out of control than ever. We've also heard every excuse in the book to try and explain it away. "It's because she's from a single-parent household," "The schools just don't do enough these days," "He's just a bad egg..." The list goes on.

Children today are no different from children 50 years ago... it's parenting that has changed. American culture has also changed. People are working longer hours today than ever before. They come home too tired to think and the result is that they don't have the energy to properly interact with their family. They miss out on giving their

children the structure and discipline they need, and the rest of us are paying for it by having to deal with poorly trained children.

Raising a child is a full-time job. You'd be fired if you repeatedly failed at work, so why is it different at home? It's not the school's place to raise your child. They are there to help socialize and educate, not to instill family values, morals and ethics. As for disrespectful kids coming from single-parent households... I'm not buying it. I've seen just as many brats come out of so-called "normal" nuclear families.

Many parents are just hiding behind the excuses, allowing them to somehow justify their inaction. They need to step up to the plate and take responsibility for what they're NOT doing.

If you are like me, and don't have children of your own, you might be thinking that you don't have to worry about this... after all, you don't go out to dinner that often and trips to the grocery store can be quick. Your exposure is limited... for now. Well, think of it this way: Those same children will someday be working with or even FOR you. How confident are you that their parents did their job?



Rhiannon Holbrook
Staff reporter

Confessions of a solitaire-y addiction

I have a confession to make: I play solitaire on my computer until the wee hours of the morning. Then I complain the next day about being too tired and having too much stuff I need to get done.

There are numerous books I have neglected in order to play just one more game on the computer. I remember a time when I couldn't stop reading.

When I was in grade school, using my imagination and traveling to different worlds through books was the best thing in life. In one day, I could go to Ireland or England or even all the way to Hollywood by reading novels. Now, I can't remember the last time I was a heroine or poor person during the Great Depression because I have to play just one more game.

Not only have I missed out on using my imagination reading books, but I have been unable to dream because I don't get the sleep I need. My sleeping time has been reduced by a few hours a week because I need to play just one more game.

Before I shut off my computer and go to bed, I always find the time to play solitaire. Either I want to beat my previous score or just win a game, I continue to play until my eyes begin to water and I hardly see the computer screen anymore. I need to play one more game.

From my computer desk, I can look out the window to see the beautiful days we've been having and I think I should go out and enjoy the day.

But then I click "yes" when my computer asks if I would like to play again. One solitaire game only lasts

for about a minute, so I have time to play once more before going out to enjoy the sunshine that is so rare in our state.

Three hours later and I look outside to see that the sunshine has changed into moonlight. I keep clicking the "yes" button without any conscious thought as to how much time I am wasting.

Unfortunately my parents encourage some of this behavior. My dad and I have competitions to see who can get the high-

est score on Spider-Solitaire. When we talk to each other on the phone in the evening, he'll ask me if I have beaten my previous scores, that way he know what to beat. Or, while we are talking on the phone, one or both of us will be playing the game while trying to hold on a conversation.

But it isn't just the solitaire games that I am addicted to. I constantly play Hearts and Minesweeper because sometimes I need to put some variety in my game-planning schedule. I don't play these games very often because they take more thought and skill than moving cards around on the screen. Hearts takes strategy and Minesweeper is just frustrating.

I would like to say that, after talking with fellow addicts, I have decided to put down the mouse and join civilization. Maybe I will go and read a book outside, escaping my room and computer to lose myself in someone else's reality. Or maybe I will catch up on my sleep and dream of graduation day. But first I am going to play just one more game.



Carol Jodock
Copy desk Chief

15

days left until the
uncontested
withdrawal
deadline (May 13)

6

weeks left until finals
week begins
(June 7-10)

43

days left until
graduation
(June 11)

Today's Cover

The cover image was created to address issues of vulnerability caused by our reliance on technology. The line is being blurred between our own identities and our technology. As we move further into the information age, it is harder to distinguish between the individual and the machine. No longer do we just have names, but we identify ourselves by e-mail address, cell phone number or user name. The notion of our existence has been expanded to represent these alternate selves.

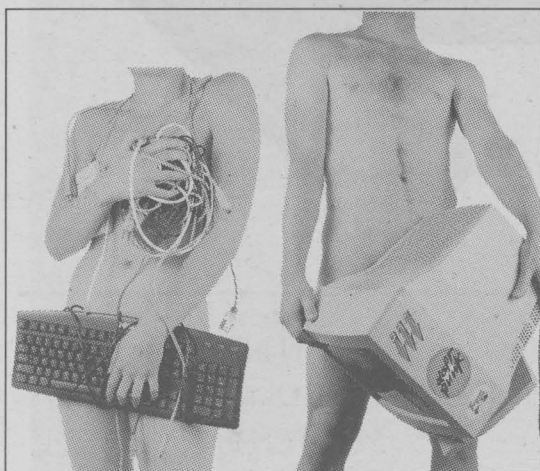
— The editors

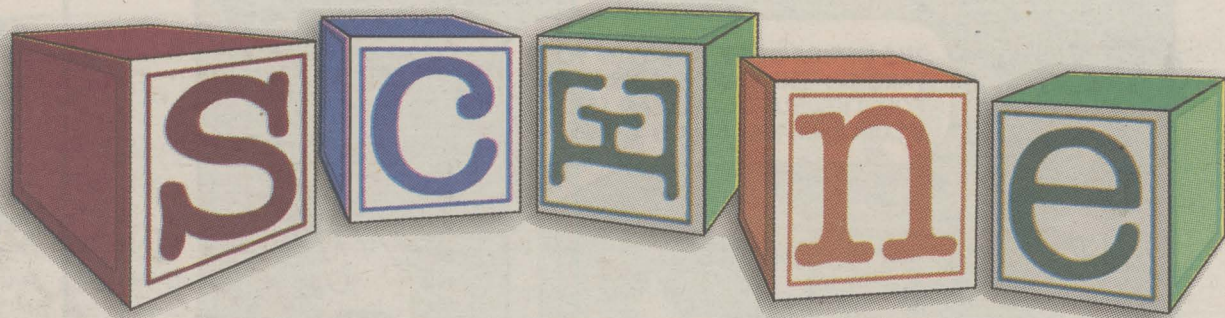
Dream of the front page?

The May 19 edition of the Observer will feature a local artist's work on the cover. The competition is open to CWU students, staff and the general public. Send your art (photo, graphic, drawing, etc) to Observer@cwu.edu.

*SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY MAY 8 AT 6 P.M.

*SUBJECT OF EMAIL SHOULD READ: "FRONT COVER ART SUBMISSION"





There and back again...

Two Central students return to the
Early Childhood Learning Center
where their education began



photos courtesy of Early Childhood Learning Center

Counter clockwise from top: Michael Anderson, Danna Orcutt, group photo of children years ago and Nick Reykdal. They were among the first children who attended the Early Childhood Learning Center, which opened in 1983. Orcutt and Reykdal currently work at the center. Some of their classmates are Central students now.

by Kelsey Wheeler
Staff reporter

It is often said that people return to the place of their youth; so it goes with a few Central Washington University students who work for the Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC).

Nick Reykdal, junior elementary education major, and Danna Orcutt, freshman general business major, got their first glimpse of Central when they were young children. Reykdal's dad and Orcutt's mom were students at Central, so Reykdal and Orcutt spent most of their childhood days attending the ECLC. Now Reykdal and Orcutt are students at Central and employees of the ECLC.

"I had my first memory of wanting to be a teacher [while attending the ECLC]," Reykdal said. "I learned how to tie my shoes and kept chasing other kids around so I could teach them, but then I gave up and played."

Reykdal spent his childhood in Ellensburg as a student of Morgan Middle School and returned to attend Central. Before working at the ECLC, Reykdal studied abroad in Iceland for four months. After returning, Reykdal wanted to work at the ECLC because of his fond memories.

"I remember Janie (the ECLC director) gave me a gift — the letter 'N' with little wheels on it. I still have it," Reykdal said.

Reykdal began work at the ECLC this quarter along with Orcutt.

"I had a good

experience as a child, and it was a good job opportunity," Orcutt said about returning to the ECLC.

Orcutt grew up in Ellensburg and currently lives at home because it's "a lot cheaper."

"I love the small town atmosphere," Orcutt said. "I will probably stay here."

Reykdal and Orcutt are not the only students at Central who attended the ECLC as children. Others include: Hannah and Aaron Schnabel, Brianna Rowe and Michael Anderson.

"I remember doing lots of cool stuff," said Anderson, senior history major. "They had great learning activities and were very supportive — like a second home in a way. I'm actually still friends with Janie."

Orcutt's aunt, Janie Charlton, was employed when the six Central students attended as children. Charlton has worked for the center since March of 1984 and the ECLC opened fall of 1983.

The center is available to Central students' children, as well as faculty and staff children ages two through eight. They operate on the academic calendar during the hours of 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"It's totally about learning," Charlton said. "It's not just babysitting. We have a one to five ratio because we believe children need individual attention."

The center educates children in areas such as arts and crafts, science, math, gardening and more. Charlton believes that kids who have a good experience at the ECLC are likely to

"I learned to tie my shoes and kept chasing other kids around so I could teach them."

—Nick Reykdal
elementary education

attend Central as adults and encourage others to do so. She feels that Central can create loyalty, like Washington State University and the University of Washington have among alumni and their families, through programs like the ECLC.

"The ECLC would be the first and only place I would take my kids, and I would encourage them to go to Central because it's great and the classes are small," Anderson said.

For more information
about the ECLC call
963-1744.



ART SHOW:
STUDENTS SHOW
THEIR WORK
PAGE 9

OPINION:
REALITY TV BITES
BIG TIME!
PAGE 10

LITTLEJOHN:
WHAT DOES HE SAY
THIS WEEK?
PAGE 10

ROBBER'S ROOST:
LATE NIGHT PIZZA
PLACE
PAGE 11

5 MINUTES:
EXCHANGE
STUDENT TELLS ALL
PAGE 11

No more stick figures, students graduate to sculptures and photos

by Carter Thomas
Staff reporter

For most students on campus, their career as artists pretty much end with pictures of stick figures defending Earth from invading aliens in the margins of their geography notes. Then again, some art students in Randall Hall left the stick figures behind long ago, and for the next two weeks, they're out to show how far they have come.

Starting April 25, and continuing until May 8 in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery in Randall Hall, the 2nd annual juried Central Washington University student art exhibit will be showcasing the works produced so far this year by Central art students.

"This is important to students because it's an opportunity to showcase their best artwork from this school year," said Heather Horn, gallery manager. "A lot of them want to be professional artists, so it's good for them to do their own lighting and setting up."

The chance to have a piece of their art displayed in this show is quite an opportunity for these growing artists. Being a juried exhibit, some artwork was cut and only select pieces will be given awards.

"We're trying to make it exciting and make people want to participate, but give it a real world edge," said Sarah Haven, president of the student art council.

The exhibit will be juried by prestigious Seattle artist Mandy Greer, the recipient of one of the 2004 Artist Trust and Washington State Arts Commission Fellowship Awards.

The gallery will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Awards will be given out at 7 p.m. on May 6 in the gallery. The entire exhibit is free and open to the public.

"There's a community outreach aspect about it," Horn said. "We're trying to get people excited about the student artwork."

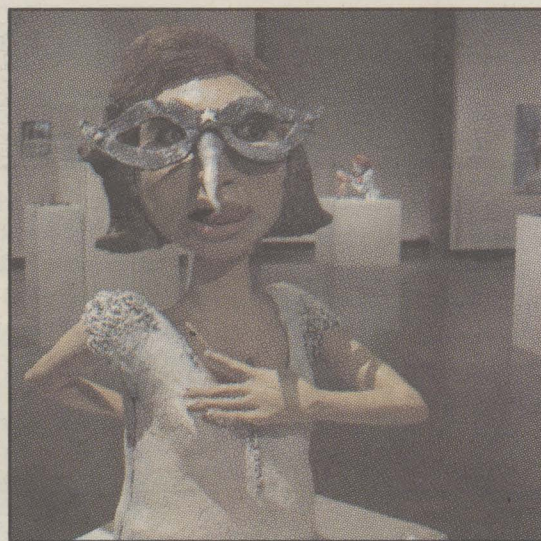
For more information about Central's Department of Art, visit www.cwu.edu/~art.

"This is important to students because it's an opportunity to showcase their best artwork."

-Heather Horn
Gallery manager

CHECK OUT MORE ARTWORK!

Students will be exhibiting numerous works at 7 p.m. on May 6 at 314 N. Main.



Chris Gianunzio/Observer

ARTWORK FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: "Head first, feet over backwards," by Kevin Malella, bottom left, "Ring reliquary for a dead bird" by Jacob Mills, bottom right, "First Communion" by Amanda Triggers. The exhibit started on Monday April 28 and will continue to May 8. This is the 2nd annual juried Central Washington University student art show. It features works done by Central art students they have done this far into the school year. The exhibit will be juried by prestigious Seattle artist Mandy Greer, the recipient of one of the 2004 Artist Trust and Washington State Arts Commission Fellowship Awards.

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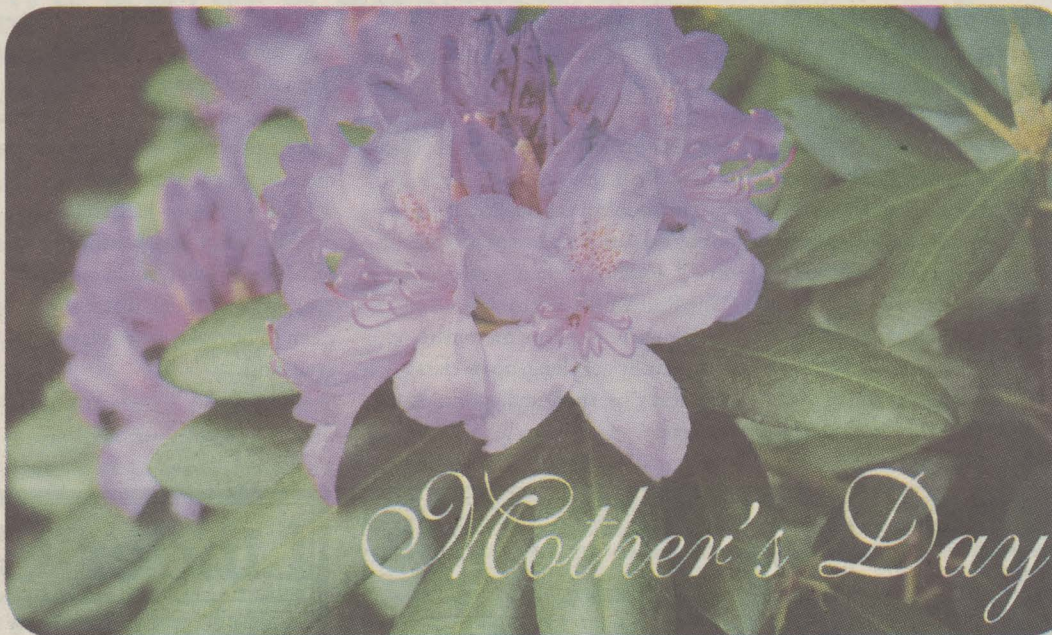
-Membership is open to all Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors as well as faculty and school administrators

-Students applying must be in the top 35% of their class and in good academic standing

-Members are eligible for awards, scholarships, and have access to a network of fellow leaders across the country

For more information stop by the CEL office in SUB 104 or go to www.cwu.edu/~cel

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That's a rap: Music pays for tuition

by Julie Follette
Staff reporter

Freshman Cody Foster, a.k.a. Sadistik, is proof that Central Washington University is a breeding ground for musical talent. Foster is an independent hip-hop artist out of Yakima who produces his own music and is building up a buzz in the underground hip-hop scene.

Foster acquired the name Sadistik because of his brutal disses and cleverly woven attacks during live rap battles. Foster started rapping at age 14 and has been hooked ever since.

In high school, Foster collaborated with other independent artists to create a compilation CD that sold over 900 copies to fans through live shows, the Internet and local Yakima record shops.

"I rap about my emotions, personal stories, basically what I perceive as truth," Foster said. "I would describe my music as having a raw edge with truthful lyrics."

Foster receives inspiration from an eclectic group of artists.

"I like anything from 2Pac to Marilyn Manson, to Enya, to The Doors," Foster said.

Foster is also a writer. He has had his poetry published nationally and he won the Rock the Mic 2004 contest in



Chris Gianunzio/Observer

Freshman Cody Foster, a.k.a. Sadistik, is an independent hip-hop artist out of Yakima who produces his own music. In high school, Foster collaborated with other independent artists to create a CD that sold over 900 copies. Foster uses the money he has earned to live off during the school year.

which he had to freestyle battle against other hopeful artists. Foster has won over \$3,000 in cash and prizes within the past four years, which he uses to live off during the academic year.

Foster chose Central to get his degree because of its close proximity to Yakima, where he lays down tracks in the studio. Studio costs usually fall around \$50 an hour, but Foster records for free because the studio engineer is a

fan of his work.

Foster is working on a solo album. He hopes to continue battling and is looking for opportunities to perform on campus. In the future Foster isn't concerned about achieving "TRL status" but states, "If I could eat off it, I'll be happy."

Contact information for shows and music:
www.sadistikonline.com,
sadistikpro@yahoo.com

Where are the lions?

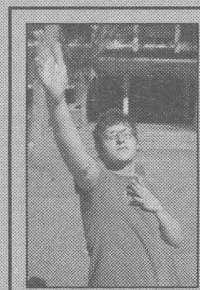
RANDOM THOUGHTS OF A SINGLE LAD

Concrete is the

new nature — So over by Nicholson Pavilion, I noticed a new construction project occurring. Right next to the tennis courts and parking lot, one can find a big patch of dirt where grass used to lay. After several seconds of excruciating investigation, I was told that a large concrete slab would be created there, which will be used as a place to feed visitors, this summer. My only question is why can't food be prepared and served on grass? Does this school hate grass?

When I first started here three years ago, I enjoyed the campus because it wasn't too crammed together; nice fields stood in between buildings, making the campus look open and free. Now the lawn by Black Hall has been destroyed, leaving the Science Building lawn, Barto lawn and the sports fields to be the major sections left. Stop hiring men to walk around saying, "Hmm, this grass looks very nice here, but just for kicks, let's pour some concrete over it and call it a day!" If you destroy all the lawns, I'll have no where to lay in my bikini and get a tan, and THAT'S when I'll really get pissed. Take it as a forewarning.

SAFARI Rumble! — I don't know why everyone complains about SAFARI. I think it's really



Brent Littlejohn
Staff reporter

easy to use, and have never run into any problems with it. I realize I don't deal with financial aid and that's where a lot of the problems take place, but adding and dropping classes, checking grades — all that jazz is pretty simple. What I don't like is the name. It's designed about as boring as possible,

and doesn't deserve such a burly name as SAFARI. If they want to keep the name, they should add a lion fighting a bunch of gazelles and zebras, cage match style.

Cars were overrated to begin with — Last week I paid \$8.36 per gallon at the gas station. When I first started driving at age 17 (my parents didn't trust me with a colored pencil at 16) gas was \$.99 per gallon. I'm not super into politics or the war. I get most of my news from Jon Stewart really, I don't need to hear a bunch of baloney from white dudes in ugly ties to know that gas prices suck.

A friend pointed out yesterday that a gallon of milk is cheaper than a gallon of gas now. In conclusion, we both bought a gallon of milk and drank it while skateboarding around town. Bad idea on an 80 degree day, but a worthy protest just the same. I'll show the gas industry they can't stomp all over me, one hot, foul milk jug at a time. Who's with me? Anyone? Please? Damn.

THE TRIBE HAS SPOKEN: YOU'RE FIRED

Every night when I turn on the TV it seems like every program on is a "reality" show of some form. I am so sick of reality TV.

I thought the point of television was to veg-out and escape reality.

It all started with MTV's "The Real World" and somehow over the last few years it has taken over our televisions. There are more than 30 reality shows that air throughout the week — I say enough is enough.

The thing that really gets to me is that this so-called reality TV is not realistic at all.

If you and 19 strangers got stranded on a deserted island, would you break up into two teams of 10, form tribes and compete in challenges for food and prizes?

And how would you go about voting someone off the island?

My guess is, if this was reality, everyone would stick together and try



Sarah Mauhl
Staff reporter

to make sure as many people as possible survived.

The problem is actual reality is so boring no one would want to watch it on TV. Imagine if there was an MTV "The Real World: Ellensburg."

A bunch of college roommates who actually get along, go to class, have real jobs, study and go out on the weekends.

The majority of our time is spent doing mundane things that no one would want to watch. But I don't want to watch this fake reality producers have created either.

I say bring back the good-old family comedies, "The Brady Bunch," "Full House," "Boy Meets World," "Family Matters," "Growing Pains" and "The Cosby Show" — just to name a few.

I know they were corny, but they were fun and they always taught you some moral lesson.

Those shows fulfilled my expectation of television — mindless entertainment to get your mind off the real world for at least a half an hour.

I'll admit I have watched my share of reality TV, who could avoid it?

I just don't think that it should claim to be reality when clearly it is not even close.

I say: Reality TV — You're Fired!

STUDENT
ARTWORK
WANTED!
CHECK OUT
INFORMATION
IN
OPINION

Correction

In last week's 5 minutes profile, the featured student's name was misspelled in the headline. It should have been spelled Jason McCulley.

Battle of the Bands

Bring your demos to The 'Burg in the SUB by May 11th for your chance to play in the Battle of the Bands on May 19th!

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Renowned pianist visits

by Billie Foster
Staff reporter

Originally from Taiwan, Regina Yeh has performed piano concerts in the United States, Belgium, Italy, the United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and in her home country. Now Yeh is coming to Central Washington University to perform for local residents.

"This will be very exciting to have a pianist of her caliber come to Central," said John Pickett, professor of piano.

Yeh's musical talents have led her to play with the Adirondack Ensemble in New York, and collaborated with the prestigious Harlem Boy's Choir. She made appearances with the Seattle Chamber Music Society's Summer Festival in 2004. Yeh has also performed with the contemporary ensemble of the Manhattan School of Music and the University of Washington School of Music.

Her musical career started at the age of 13 as a pupil of the renowned Hungarian pianist and school master Bela Siki. Yeh then continued to pursue a Bachelor of Music degree at the

University of Washington, graduating Magna Cum Laude. She received her Masters of Music from the Manhattan School of Music along with Professional Studies Diploma and Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

Since she was a teenager, Yeh has racked up numerous awards and honors, many of them being international and national. Some of the awards and honors include the Newport International Competition in the UK, Bergen Philharmonic Competition, the Pacific International Piano Competition, the National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts competition, the National Federation of Music Club's Young Artist Competition, just to name a few.

You can see this award winning musician at 7 p.m. on April 28 in the music building's concert hall. Admission is \$5, which will be donated to the Central Music scholarships fund. Yeh will be performing Chopin Sonata #2 in Bb minor, op 35; Liszt's Spanish Rhapsody; Schubert's 12 Ländler D90; and the Rachmaninoff Sonata #2 in Bb minor.

For more information, please call the Music Department at 963-1216.

5 MINUTES WITH...MIN KIM

by Heather Watkins
Staff reporter

Min Kim is a senior at Central Washington University and today she turns 23. She grew up in Seoul, the capitol of South Korea with her younger brother, who is serving in the Korean army. Kim came to the United States by herself to go to college after finishing high school.

Q: How is the United States different from South Korea?

A: The United States and South Korea are very similar, but the attitudes are very different. In Korea, parents support their children until they get married. They buy them food, clothing, pay for their housing. But in the United States, people usually get jobs after high school and their parents don't support them anymore.

Q: How did you decide to come to Central?

A: I decided to come to Central because my cousin went here three years ago and he said he liked it a lot.

Q: What is your major?

A: Well, I came to the United States to major in French. I speak French very well, but now I am changing my major. I want to go into nutrition.

Q: What are your plans after you graduate?

A: I want to apply to go to graduate school. I know it sounds boring, but I just want to study as much as I



photo courtesy of Min Kim

can.

Q: What's your favorite drink?

A: I like Busch. But other than beer, I like black Russians (coffee liqueur and vodka). They taste like coffee and they are very strong.

APRIL MAY

IN TOWN

28

"EXTREME SURVIVOR" SPEAKER, 7 P.M., AT CLUB CENTRAL. DAVID

WITKOWSKI IS AN EXTREME SKIER WITH A STORY ABOUT SURVIVAL.

-STUDENT ART SHOW, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M., MON.-FRI. AT SARAH SPURGEON GALLERY.

29

-STUDENT ART SHOW, SARAH SPURGEON GALLERY. IT IS FROM NOON TO 3 P.M. ON SAT. SUN.

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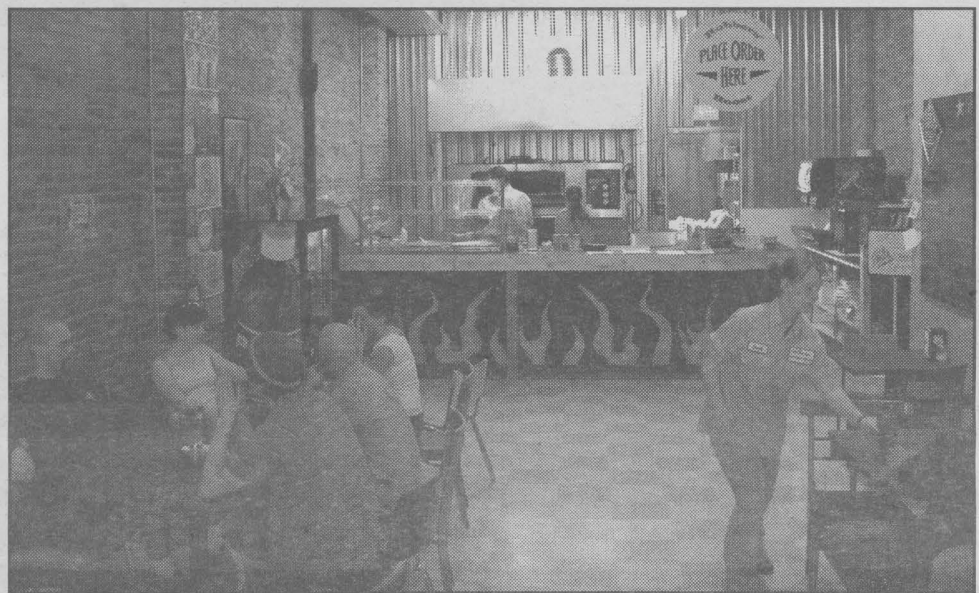
-PIANO RECITAL: IAN HOUGHTON, 2 P.M., AT MUSIC EDUCATION BUILDING CONCERT HALL. ADMISSION IS FREE.

-GALILEO QUARTET: NEWLY FORMED CWU JAZZ QUARTET WILL PLAY FROM 5-7 P.M., AT THE STARLIGHT LOUNGE. ADMISSION IS FREE.

-ABRAXAS QUARTET: 7 P.M. AT THE MUSIC EDUCATION BUILDING.

3

-"YOU THROW LIKE A GIRL" SPEECH. FORMER NFL QUARTER BACK, DON MCPHERSON, WILL SPEAK AT 7 P.M., SUB BALLROOM. SPONSORED BY EMPOWERMENT CENTER. ADMISSION IS FREE.



Casey Wagner/Observer

Robber's Roost owner Corey Everts (behind the counter) and waitress Rachael Kennedy. It is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday located on Pearl Street.

Two guys, a girl and a new pizza place

by Heidi Corbin
Staff reporter

Robber's Roost Pizzeria is the newest pizza place to enter this town. The new joint is located right around the corner from the Oak Rail, making it very easy for most college students to find. Robber's Roost officially opened the first week of February.

"Every college town has to have a fun pizza place, and Ellensburg didn't have one yet," owner Corey Everts said. "We like the downtown area and thought it would be a great idea."

Robber's Roost Pizzeria differs from the other pizzeria's here in town. Their hours are from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, and from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The idea behind these hours is so students or town residents can have an entertaining place to eat food after the bars close rather than the typical night at Jack-in-the-Box or Taco Bell.

There are a variety of things to do at Robber's Roost besides just eating pizza.

For example, customers can choose from the many, many CDs to play in the pizzeria's CD Juke Box. There are also video games, such as Golden Eye and Area 51 for the video game deprived. And for all of the competitive pool players in town, there are

tournaments every Thursday night beginning at 7 p.m.

For the menu, it does not look like a typical pizza place menu. Wine and crème brulee are also served upon request. One interesting item on the menu is a Thai Peanut Buffalo pizza.

There has not been an official grand opening for the new pizza place, "so there are still a lot of things to come in the future," Everts said.

Either tonight or tomorrow, when the bars close, or when you and your friends are on your way home, stop in at Robber's Roost, get some pizza, sober up and develop your own opinion of the new pizza place to enter the expanding town of Ellensburg.

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Michael Bennett/Observer

Yeehaww! Joel Connor battles with an angry bull during last weekend's rodeo.

Rodeo struts their stuff

by Andrew Reeves
Staff reporter

After three days of excitement, disappointment and hour after hour of rodeo action, Central's Rodeo Club reflects on the outcome of their most recent competitions. Last weekend's rodeo were definitely a step in the right direction for Central's competitors.

Friday night's Northwest Regional college rodeo roughstock events kept all 4,000 spectators in attendance on the edge of their seats. Earlier timed events proved to be the most successful for Central's rodeo club.

Sophomore Cheryl Brown's 17.984-second run earned her a close second place in Friday's barrel racing event. Brown's run was less than a tenth of a second slower than Blue Mountain Community College's Kasey Bruce's run of 17.887 seconds.

Brown was the only Central Rodeo Club competitor to finish in the top eight in any event.

"I'm glad that I was able to do well and get second in barrels and get some-

points for the CWU team," Brown said.

Friday was an excellent night for competitors from Walla Walla Community College as well as others. Walla Walla's Clint Johnson topped the evening's bull-riding competition with a 76-point ride. Danielle Piela of Eastern Oregon University earned a 2.9-second run in the breakaway roping competi-

Piela also took first in another event, goat tying, with a 7.5-second time. However, Piela had to share top honors in goat tying with her sister Lindsey, who also had a time of 7.5 seconds.

Five seconds was the time to beat for the steer wrestlers. Both Jared Worthen of Walla Walla and Buck McCay of Blue Mountain shared times of five seconds, earning them top honors.

Another Blue Mountain competitor who took top honors in tie-down roping was Cody Every, whose 9.6 second run was only two-tenths faster than teammate Jason Minor.

"Friday night went really well," said

Chris Stamm, Rodeo Club president. "We had an excellent turnout."

While some fans recovered from the Rodeo Club dance the night before, competitors returned Saturday morning to kick off the Central Washington University Todd Anderson Memorial Rodeo.

Freshman Melissa Woodworth made her breakaway roping debut; unfortunately she failed to catch her calf. Woodworth plans to return to barrel racing in the next competition, and improve on her breakaway roping technique.

Seniors Joel Conner and Russell Kovalenko failed to stay on their bulls long enough to place. Kovalenko lasted 6 seconds, falling just short of advancing to Sunday's finals. Only three out of 13 bull riders qualified to compete on Sunday.

"They both drew tough bulls from the nationally known Beard Rodeo Co.," said Kay Davis, Rodeo Club advisor.

As Saturday's events came to a close, Brown was the only competitor from

Central to advance to Sunday's finals.

Brown qualified to compete in the goat tying and barrel racing events the following day.

Sunday morning competitors returned to compete in the finals of the Todd Anderson Memorial Rodeo. Brown's goat tying skills earned her fifth place. She then went on to take second in barrel racing.

"The crowd was really the highlight of the day for me," Brown said. "I had a great cheering section."

The men's team winner was Blue Mountain Community College. Competitors from Blue Mountain also won the bareback, tie-down roping and team roping events.

Treasure Valley Community College was the women's team winner. Treasure Valley also won the saddle brñnc, bull riding and barrel racing events. Lindsey Piela of Eastern Oregon University came out on top in the breakaway roping competition.

Washington State University's Janette Bruce finished with top honors in goat tying. Steer wrestling top honors



" The crowd was really the highlight of the day for me. I had a great cheering section."

-Cheryl Brown
Rodeo Club

went to Jarred Thomas of Walla Walla Community College.

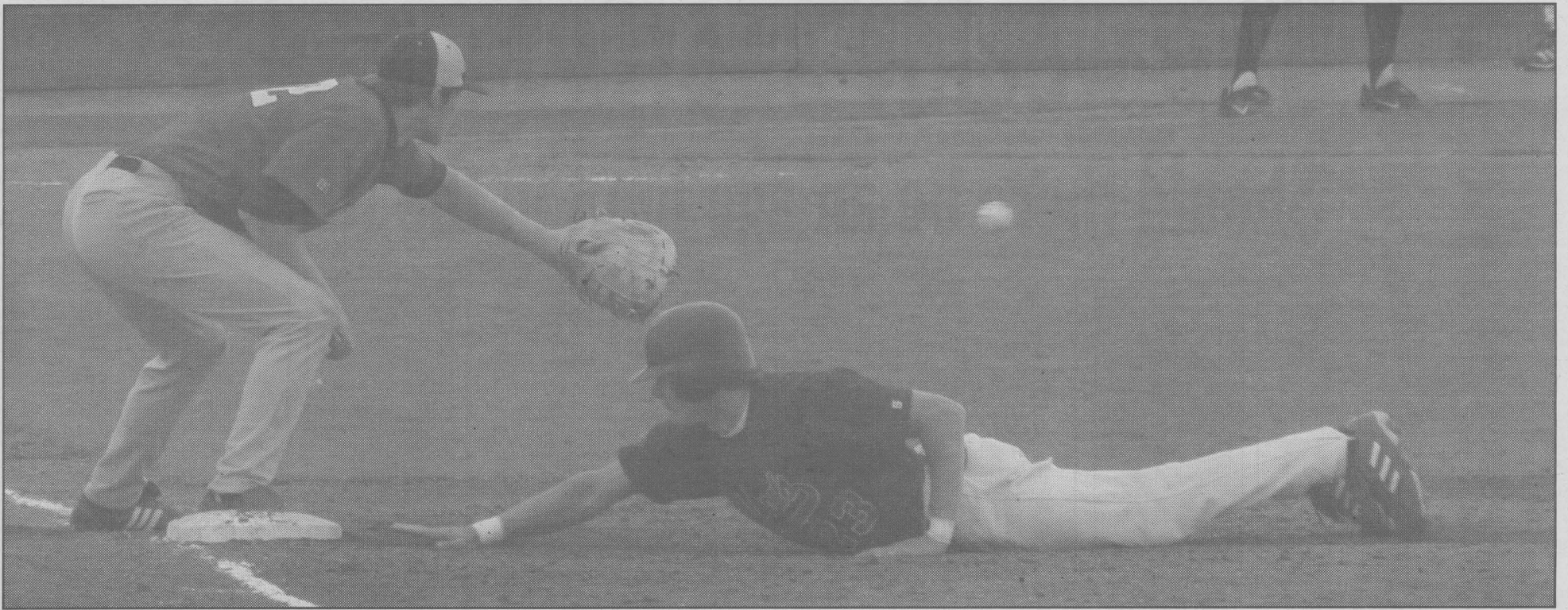
FACE-OFF QUESTION:
SHOULD THERE BE AN AGE LIMIT IN THE NBA?

SOFTBALL:
WOMEN HONOR SENIORS WITH SCHOOL RECORD.

HECKLING:
INSIDE THE MIND OF A DIE-HARD FAN.

'95 MARINERS:
REFUSE TO LOSE, A DECADE LATER.

SPORTS CALENDAR:
SEE WHAT IS COMING UP IN WILDCAT SPORTS.



Safe! Outfielder/catcher Josh Small dives back to first to avoid being picked-off.

Michael Bennett/Observer

Wildcats chew up Crusaders

by Teddy Feinberg
Staff reporter

Timely hitting, solid pitching and gutsy leadership. When a season is on the line, these characteristics are essential for survival. The Wildcats displayed such attributes this past weekend.

In a series that they needed to win, Central thumped the Northwest Nazarene Crusaders, taking three of four contests and making sure they had something to play for heading into May. With 14 games remaining, the Wildcats need to play their best ball if they have any hopes of qualifying for the Western Regional Tournament. If they match the urgency that they showed in both of last weekends double-headers, anything is possible.

After falling 8-5 in first game of the

series, Central knew that they needed game two. They turned to Eric Peterson and the 6'5" lefthanded fireballer didn't disappoint, pitching a complete game allowing seven hits and two runs while striking out six.

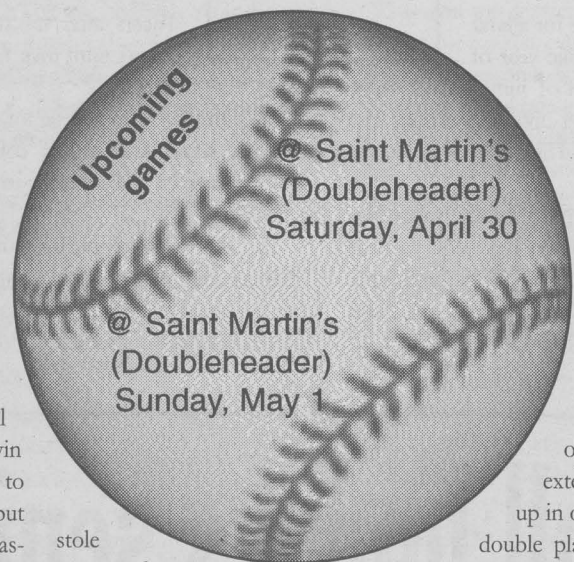
"We really made it happen in the final three games," said Coach Desi Storey. "Petey set the tone."

Of course, he had plenty of help from his offense, which racked up 15 runs while banging out 16 hits. Their

victim was Northwest Nazarene starter, Gabe Stotz. After going up 2-0 heading into the third, the Wildcats jumped all over the Crusader southpaw in a massive two-out rally. Catcher Chris Sepanski and right fielder Josh Small hit back to back doubles before Kevin Knutsen tagged his ninth homerun to left center, a towering shot, which put the Wildcats up five runs. Central wasn't done either. Ryan Rockhill got on,

"Jake's play was unbelievable"

-Desi Storey
Coach



stole second and was singled home by Tyler Hunt. RBI singles by Jamie Nilssen and Gordon Chubb later in the inning gave Central an 8-0 advantage.

Perhaps the best highlight of the day came from third baseman Jacob Beerbower. Already nursing a 10-0 lead, Pederson gave up a lead off single to start off the fifth. The following

batter, center fielder Matt Pollard, sent a frozen rope down the third base line that appeared to be headed for extra bases. Beerbower however had other plans, making a full extension diving stop, getting up in one motion, and turning a double play. The sequence put a smile on Storey's face.

"Jake's play was unbelievable," Storey said. "At times this season we've been shaky in the field, but when we come up with a nice one it feels good."

The momentum of Friday's romp

see BASEBALL, page 14 ►

As lightning strikes, track stalls in Cougar Invite

by Frank Stanely
Staff reporter

A lightning storm struck Pullman last Saturday, suspending competition of the sixth annual Cougar Invitational Meet by 80 minutes. Unfortunately, it only added to the track team's woes, as it struggled its way through one of the year's roughest meets.

A large combination of club teams, Division I schools and Canadian teams made up the majority of the 500 partic-

ipants in Saturday's meet. Central Washington University, Northwest Nazarene University and Western Washington University were the only representatives of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"The weather was off and on, but people still ran really well," said Cresap Watson.

Watson won the high jump with a mark of 6-9, which tied the GNAC record.

As for results, seven meet records

were broken, five of which were set by host Washington State University. One record, however, was broken by red-shirted junior Terran Legard, who set a new record in the women's 400-meter dash. Legard also represented the only two wins for Central, as she won both the 200-and 400-meter dash, marking the third consecutive meet in which she has won both events.

The rest of the team did fairly well, despite heavy competition from the Division I competitors. The Wildcats

had a total of nine top three finishes, five of which were second place. There were no team scores for this meet, so no overall ranking was given.

Senior Brandy Anderson in the women's 3000-meter run, senior Mike Pankiewicz in the men's 800-meter run and sophomore Cresap Watson in the men's high jump as well as both the men's and women's 4x400-meter relay teams all finished in second place.

The third place finishers included senior Lindy Mullen in the women's

1500-meter run, junior Ashley Rountree in the 100-meter hurdles, senior Jacob Galloway in the men's shot put, and the women's 4x100-meter relay team.

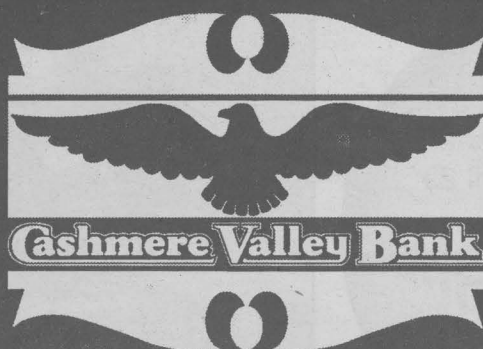
Sophomore Cameron Neel and freshman Krissy Tandle, consistent top finishers in the men's and women's shot put, both posted fouls for their events.

The Wildcats' next meet takes them back east, as they compete in the SFCC Duane Hartman Invitational on Saturday, at 10 a.m. in Spokane.

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The weekly sports face-off

Should there be an age limit in the NBA?

The proposal by commissioner David Stern to install an age limit in the NBA would throw the league an enormous curve and limit the players that have bombarded the league ever since Kevin Garnett broke into the league.

Untested high school athletes see their peers being drafted in the first round of the NBA draft and want the same thing instead of college. A first round pick is gaurenteed at least \$ 3 million.

What the money does is corrupts not only the NBA, but in turn affects college basketball.

Twenty is a perfect age for a limit because it gives at least one year of college experience instead of jumping into the league resting upon projections that are made by scouts that use high school athletes to make them money.

The popularity of the NBA game would not decline as much as people would think. LeBron James would be an incoming rookie and since being tested in college, his game and the NBA would increase with popularity.



Jon Mentzer
Sports editor

NCAA basketball, in my mind, outweighs the excitement than any NBA game could possibly offer. Television ratings have proven my point in past years, just look at the comparison from the NBA Playoffs to the NCAA Tournament.

If a high school player makes the jump into the NBA, it is extremely rare that he will start as a rookie. The majority of players that make the jump don't play and make an impact until their third or fourth year. Jermaine O'Neal was picked by the Trailblazers and never played until he was traded to the Pacers after his third year and it wasn't until then he made a difference.

If O'Neal went to college for at least one year, he would have come out of college and been a number one pick and probably would have started as a rookie.

The NBA should and will put in an age limit. Veterans are looking over their shoulders because they are afraid to lose their job to the future. The future should be drafted out of college

NBA commissioner David Stern has proposed implementing a 20-year-old age limit to be discussed at the renegotiation of the collective bargaining agreement. Players under 20 wouldn't be able to play in the league but they would be able to still get paid by playing in the NBDL until becoming eligible.

Players who do not meet the 20-year-old age requirement would still be able to enter the draft but would have to play in the National Basketball Development League (NBDL) until reaching the age of 20. The NBDL would function much the same as the minor league baseball system, except that NBDL players would only be allowed to play four years before either going to the next level or being let go. What this does is open the door for high-schoolers with talent, who may have otherwise not been drafted, to forgo college and enter the professional ranks.

What Stern's proposal overlooks is the well-being of the young players. Under the new rule, high school players would have an incentive to



Eric Norris
Asst. Sports editor

skip school in search of the big bucks and bright lights of the NBA - with a brief stop in the NBDL. Offering more incentive to make the jump to the league is a huge disservice to young, impressionable players. The college game would suffer as well, having to sit back and watch many potential collegiate stars elect to jump straight into the draft.

But what happens when these young players get hurt, or don't live up to expectations? They will be cast aside with little else than broken NBA dreams, a high school education and a little bit of money - which was probably already thrown away on cars, clothes and jewelry. The chance to ride their basketball skills to a college scholarship and education - that their grades alone may not have provided - would be long gone, having lost their collegiate eligibility when they became professionals.

An age limit may maintain a standard of play but it will exploit teenage players with all the basketball skills in the world, but no world skills.

Softball honors seniors with victory

by Brooke Saul
Staff reporter

A new record was set with a sweep against St. Martin's in a double-header, but lost to Western Washington as the seniors played their last home game.

Central honored their seniors prior to their matchup against Wesern. Catcher/outfielder Brittany Gray, Giffin and third/first baseman Jen Sweeney were highlighted of their careers as Wildcats and by giving them flowers, balloons and gift baskets.

"This is the best team out of the four years," Gray said. "Everyone is playing together but not as an individual."

Gray has played all four years for Central. Sweeney, who has one more year of eligibility remaining, but will graduate this year.

"I feel sad because I like the players," Giffin said.

In the first game against Saint Martin's, Central won 7-4. In the first inning, catcher Kelli Spaulding and right fielder Patty Martinez hit singles, each bringing in a run. In the sixth inning, Central added three more RBIs, two of them were off the bat of Martinez, who singled to right center.

"We did well against Saint Martin's," Martinez said. "I felt good about my hitting."

In the second game against Saint Martin's College, Sarah Withers pitched a complete game, while helping

Central win 5-3. During the third inning, Central scored two runs off a homerun by first baseman Catrina Robertson.

"We played pretty well and hit the ball well," coach Gary Frederick said. "Saint Martin's is a very pesky team."

Central set a school record for the most conference wins in the program's 13-year history. They have matched its school record for overall wins with 22, which the team set with last year's record of 22-21.

"Records will take care of themselves if we win the ball games," Frederick said.

Central lost the first game Saturday, 10-3. Pitcher Sara Badgley, who is now 11-7, received the loss. In the first inning, the Wildcats scored their three runs off of a single from Spaulding. The Vikings made a field error in the first inning, allowing the third run to come in.

Central will be heading to Arcata, Calif., on Thursday to play six games against Humboldt State who is ranked third in the nation.

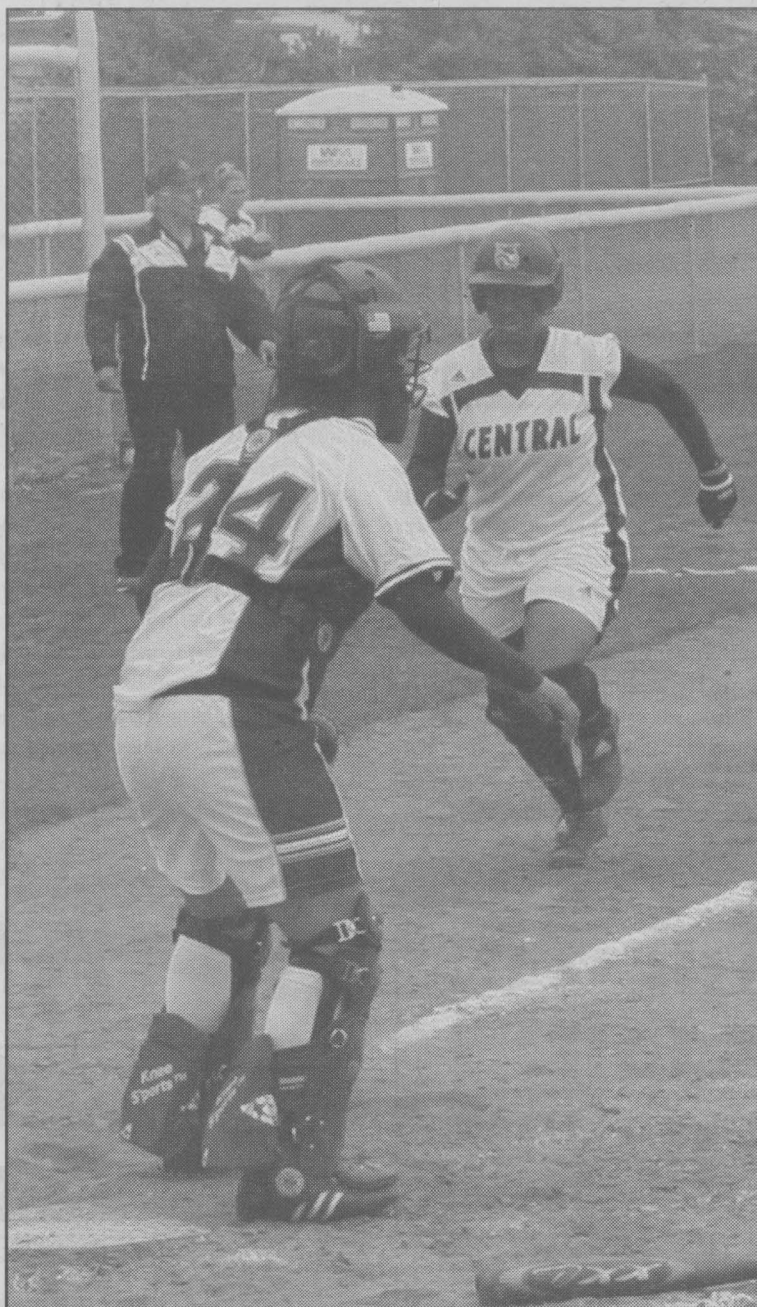
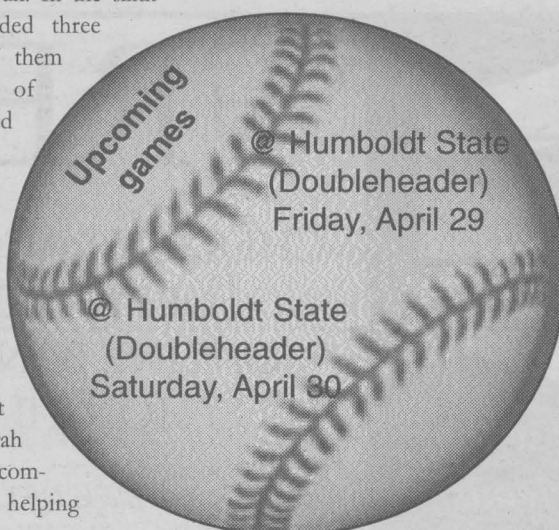


photo credit/Observer

Headin' for home. Outfielder Jenée James scores a run for the Wildcats during a game last week.

BASEBALL: Wildcats continue to streak in victory

◀ continued from 13

carried over to game one on Saturday. Chubb pitched another complete game victory, his second in as many weeks, giving up three runs in a 13-3 thrashing. An offensive outburst in the fifth inning was highlighted by consecutive RBI singles from Troy Martin, Sepanski and Small.

Game two of the double dip, a seven inning affair, saw Central take an early 5-0 lead which the pitching staff made sure didn't go to waste. Jesse Orton got the win, pitching five efficient innings and only allowing one run. Justin Knutsen got the save in a 5-2 win.

It's been a bad year for Northwest Nazarene. A 16-21 overall record and a 3-9 mark against Great Northwest Athletic Conference opponent's place them in the division cellar. They also rank last in pitching and batting when compared with their GNAC counterparts. After losing the first game of the series, Storey knew his team had to turn it around quickly.

"We talked about rebounding," Storey said. "We had to go about our business and understand we're better than most of these teams."

For Central to make a run at the playoffs, they realize that every game matters. They travel to play the Saint Martin's Saints in a four game series. The top four seeds in the Western Region qualify for the postseason

"We need to have a high percentage of wins," Storey said. "If we play well and sweep the week, it will help us regardless of what other teams do."

The art of heckling

There are many things in sports that can get the crowd into the game. Making a fingertip catch in the endzone, make a diving catch in the outfield and breaking the backboard on a monster dunk are all events that will get a crowd on their feet. But nothing gets the fans involved quite like a drunk heckler or what our European friends call a football supporter.

There are thousands of wannabe actors and actresses across the country who pay agents money that they don't have to find a way to get them a job as an extra in a crowd scene. In the meantime, ESPN makes national heroes of the guys who get blitzed enough to take off their shirt in a blizzard just to show that they are, without a doubt, the biggest fan both in pride and waist size. It would be ignorant to say that one must be an alcoholic to be a master heckler, but it definitely helps.

From the shower of Monopoly money that greeted ex-golden boy Alex Rodriguez on his first trip to Safeco Field as a Texas Ranger to the Cameron Crazies at Duke University, hecklers have truly become a part of the game. With a few exceptions, domestic hecklers have known their limits, but ask the Indiana Pacers' Ron Artest what he



Chris Thompson
Staff reporter

thinks about sports hecklers, especially those in Detroit, and you aren't going to hear about rainbows and unicorns.

It is one thing to chant "overrated" when your team is about to close out an upset victory but some fans do overstep the bounds. Earlier this month in Italy, fans in Milan found a new way to show devotion to their teams in the Champions League quarterfinal match between Inter Milan and AC Milan. After German referee Markus Merk disallowed a header from Esteban Cambiasso, Inter fans showed their displeasure by hurling plastic bottles and then over 30 lit road flares onto the pitch at San Siro stadium. I love sports,

I love to get into the games and I love to enjoy a chilled adult beverage while watching the games, but that is just nuts.

For all of you that plan to head to Safeco Field to continue being hecklers, or are looking to start, let me offer some guidance of what is and isn't acceptable. You may harass the opposing team's batting practice pitcher for getting shelled on every pitch. It is also acceptable to make fun of the guy who couldn't catch the peanuts thrown to him by the vendor.

It is considered distasteful to make fun of the little kid from Children's Hospital who was chosen to throw out the first pitch if he doesn't toss a perfect strike. Unless you know the person, it is also important to make sure the bleeding stops before laughing at the guy who got struck in the head on a line-drive foul ball, providing he wasn't doing something stupid in the first place.

These are just a few guidelines for those who want to be more than a fan. As for me, I need to go get some more face paint and a new wig as April 25 marked the first day of training camp for the WNBA defending champion Seattle Storm. If you are going to be a fan, you might as well support the best.

'My oh my' what a difference ten years made for the M's

by Jon Menzger
Sports editor

Do you remember?

"Right now the Mariners are looking for the tie, they would take a fly ball, they would love a base hit into the gap and they can win with Junior's speed to stretch."

"And the 0-1 pitch on the way to Edgar Martinez, swung on and a line down the left field line for a base hit. Here comes Joey, here is Junior to third base; they're gonna wave him in!"

"The throw to the plate will be...late!"

"The Mariners are going to play for the American League Championship. I don't believe it. It just continues, my oh my!"

Where were you when those luscious words spewed out the beautiful, scratchy throat of Mariner announcer Dave Niehaus in 1995?

If you were like me, and weren't at the game, then you were three inches from the television screen jumping up and down, and then turning to hug someone in disbelief thinking that I just witnessed one of the greatest moments of my young life.

In 1977, the Mariners were born, but in 1995 they came to life.

Do you remember the heartache and annoy-

ance before the '95 season? I do.

My family was one of those families who didn't care if they lost, but went to the games anyway. We treated it like a Sunday field trip to watch a team that never finished better than third place.

With a month left in the '95 season the Mariners found themselves in a familiar spot, 12 games behind the Angels.

Then the impossible happened.

The Mariners started winning and the Angels started losing. Out of nowhere fans were flocking to see the Mariners and were chanting "Refuse to Lose" in the Kingdome.

As superficial as it may seem, Seattle then became a baseball town.

All of the plays were "Web gems," all of the hits were homeruns, all of the pitches were strikes and all of the Mariners became our heroes; yes the '95 season was mysteriously miraculous.

As the season came to a close, the Mariners ended the season in a tie with the Angels and were forced to play a one-game playoff.

The once powerful Angels were no match for the nitty gritty Mariners as the M's rolled to 9-1

see MARINERS, page 16 ►

'95 Lineup

C- Dan Wilson
1B- Tino Martinez
2B- Joey Cora
3B- Mike Blowers
SS- Louis Sojo
LF- Vince Coleman
CF- Ken Griffey, Jr.
RF- Jay Buhner
DH- Edgar Martinez
Ace- Randy Johnson
Closer- Norm Charlton
Manager- Lou Piniella

'05 Lineup

C- Miguel Olivo
1B- Richie Sexson
2B- Brett Boone
3B- Adrian Beltre
SS- Pokey Reese
LF- Randy Winn
CF- Jeremy Reed
RF- Ichiro
DH- Raul Ibanez
Ace- Jamie Moyer
Closer- Eddie Guardado
Manager- Mike Hargrove

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FOR SALE: Craftsman lawnmower, runs great, no bagger, \$65. OVER 100 HIP-HOP records for listening/mixing, pop. artists, \$200. Huge stand up freezer, older but works great, locking, \$65. 1974 Beaver, full-size cab over camper, cleaned up inside, needs more work, great for hunting season, \$500. Call Matt @ 360-910-7222.

CWU EXERCISE SCIENCE CLUB 5K FUN RUN! Saturday May 21, 10 AM. Warm-Up at 9:30 AM. CWU track (Tomlinson) Pre-register w/T-shirt \$10. Pre-register, no T-shirt \$5. Day of event no T-shirt \$10. Pre-Register at Safeway 11-2 on May 7-8 & May 14-15. Super One 11-2 May 7 & May 14-15. PRIZES!!! Sponsored by CWU Exercise Science Club. Info: contact Dr. Harry Papadopoulos 963-274

LOOKING FOR A PASTURE for 2 horses and 1 goat ASAP! Willing to Pay and Will make fencing suitable for the goat. Close to CWU best but any will do! Alicia (509)963-8191 hoglana@cwu.edu

ADORABLE 2 BEDROOM, 1 bathroom, near hospital and schools. Non-smoking. \$700 a month + deposit. 1 year lease required. Avail 1st week of July. Call 306-9403. Application and references.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS! Choose your own hours! I'll help you get started! AVON Independent Sales Representative. CALL: Janelle 925-2646mastersj@cwu.edu

ROOMMATE WANTED: \$250 Close to campus, free utilities No deposit. 425 241 6209

DRAMA STUDENTS!!! CHEAP PROFILE PHOTOS! Photographs for your resume / profile. \$35 includes: Shooting, one 8x10 headshot and one 8x10 bodyshot. See examples at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/casewag/sets/176766/> Contact Casey @ 509.929.1924

The end of the year approacheth...

Be sure you get rid of your unwanted stuff so you can go home unburdened. Student Classifieds are FREE! Just email: PAGEC@CWU.EDU

MARINERS: Remembering the '95 M's

◀ continued from 15

victory.

Then the ultimate showdown came. It was the little guys from way out West against the Evil Empire from the East.

(Writer's note: If there is any Mariner fan who claims to also be a Yankee fan, they aren't a fan at all! There is no such thing.)

The two teams fought back and forth forcing a series-deciding game five.

This was the game of games for the

Mariners. The mighty Yankees controlled all nine innings for much of the game, but the Mariners maintained to keep in pace and forced the game into extra innings with a 4-4 tie.

The Yankees took a one run lead going into the 11th inning, and things started looking bleak. Don Mattingly was waiting for his ring and wasn't going to let a bunch of scruffs from the Northwest steal his last chance at glory. Or was he?

The Mariners quickly got Joey Cora and Griffey into scoring position. Then up came the '95 American League hitting champion Edgar Martinez, with rookie Alex Rodriguez on deck. He stood just over six feet as he got into his stance, waving the pine-tarred, giant barrel of his bat above his head.

The count fell to no balls and one

strike. Then the pitch came, and the loudest swing in Mariner history hit the ball down the left field line.

Griffey got on his good foot and like a galloping thoroughbred rounded third base and slid into home. And all anyone saw was Griffey's bright pearly whites as he was being piled upon by every Mariner possible.

Chills stream down my spine and goose bumps crawl up my skin every time I see that image, teary eyed as I remember it.

Then, at the clutches of the Cleveland Indians, the improbable season ended and was in our memories.

The astonishing season was history. The fans were left with the haunting image of the vulnerable Cora holding his head in his hands sobbing his eyes out in anguish.

The Northwest and every Mariner fan cried alongside him.

The fans were heartbroken, but stood proud, the Mariners were now a force to be reckoned with.

Fast forward 10 years and where are the Mariners now? Still a hot ticket, although the nostalgia isn't like what it once was, and for some reason that puts me to ease seeing the true fans out supporting a team that isn't what it once was.

The year 1995 was one where everything went perfect for a short while. But like most perfect things in the world, they end.

If you try and remember, the '95 season will always be here to remind us that the little guy can win and hopefully this season will be a season to remember too.

sports calendar



Baseball

Doubleheader @
Saint Martin's
Saturday, April 30,
at 1 p.m.

Doubleheader @
Saint Martin's
Sunday, May 1,
at noon.

Doubleheader @
Whitworth
Tuesday, April 26,
at 1 p.m.

Softball

Doubleheader @
Humboldt State
Friday, April 29,
at 2 p.m.

Doubleheader @
Humboldt State
Saturday, April 30,
at 11 a.m.

Doubleheader @
Humboldt State
Sunday, May 1,
at 10 a.m.

Track & Field

@ WWU Twilight
Open, Friday,
April 29 at 4 p.m.

@ Duane Hartman
Invite, Saturday, April
30, at 10 a.m.

Mariners



@ Oakland
Friday, April 29
at 7:05 on FSN

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your friends think
you can hear.)



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Unlimited CALL ME Minutes are not deducted from packaged minutes and are only available in the local calling area. Mobile Messaging 250 package is \$5.95 per month thereafter, \$0.10 per outgoing message beyond 250. Must call to cancel. Mobile Messaging - a charge of \$0.10 per outgoing message applies if no messaging package is selected or existing package limit is exceeded. Offer valid on two-year consumer service agreement on local and regional plans of \$39.95 or higher. All service agreements subject to an early termination fee. Credit approval required. \$30 activation fee. \$15 equipment change fee. Roaming charges, fees, surcharges, overage charges and taxes apply. \$0.96 Federal and Other Regulatory charge applies. This is not a tax or government required charge. Local network coverage and reliability may vary. Usage rounded up to the next full minute. Use of service constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions. Other restrictions apply. See store for details. Limited time offer. ©2005 U.S. Cellular Corporation.